Abundance and Run Timing of Adult Salmon in Long Lake in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, 2005

Long Lake flows into Lakina River, a tributary of the Chitina River in the Copper River drainage. It provides important spawning habitat for sockeye salmon, which contribute to intensive down-river commercial and subsistence fisheries. The monitoring and evaluation of this run is essential to ensure that Wrangell - St. Elias National Park and Preserve (WRST) maintains natural and healthy populations of fish as required by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The Long Lake weir is one of several projects providing accurate assessment of yearly run strength and migratory timing in tributaries to the Copper River. In 2005, the weir was installed 19 July and removed 15 October. A total of 1520 sockeye salmon migrated through the weir between August 11 and September 18. Age, sex and length samples were collect from 8% of the escapement. The sockeye age composition included 39.1% age-1.2 fish, 50.4% age 1.3-fish, 6.3%-age 2.2 fish and 4.1% age-2.3 fish. In addition, 51.1% of the fish passing through the weir were females.

Citation: Veach, E. R. and M. McCormick. 2005. Abundance and Run Timing of Adult Salmon in Long Lake in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. USFWS Office of Subsistence Management, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, Annual Report No. FIS 04-501, Anchorage, Alaska.